

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

I have a Journalism degree from the world-renowned journalism program at the University of Missouri-Columbia. I fully understand and respect the need to balance access to publicly-owned airwaves, and this usage is clearly out of balance.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. When large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for their bottom line (in the short term) and less of what we need for our democracy.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.